

THE NAUTILUS.

Vol. XXXVIII

JULY, 1924.

No. 1

A VISIT TO SWEDEN

BY OLOF O. NYLANDER

I left my home in the woods of Maine Sept. 10, 1923, and stopped one day in Boston to see some friends. Leaving Hoboken, N. J., Sept. 13 on the Scandinavian-American Line steamer "Hellig Olav," I arrived at Christiansand, Norway, on the 24th, and proceeded by rail to Gothenburg, Sweden.

My object was to see the Tercentennial Exposition of Gothenburg and to look over the Museum, especially the collection of Mollusca.

The Biological Museum in Gothenburg is a new building built on the top of a hill in a beautiful park—Slats Skogen. The collection contains many fine specimens and several large panoramic views. Prof. S. A. Jägerskiöld and his assistant, Dr. Paul Henrici, spent much time in showing me the collections. The collection of Bohus Lane is most extensive; the mollusca are arranged in small glass-covered drawers with a fine series of extended animals in alcohol, the best I have seen. In this museum is also the large collection of land and fresh-water shells used by C. A. Westerlund in his publications. Westerlund described many new species that were never illustrated. Prof. Jägerskiöld said that any American malacologist would be given every opportunity to study the collection. With Dr. Henrici's assistance, part of two days were spent in looking through the collection.

On Oct. 2 I left Gothenburg and went to Skara, a city best known for its old cathedrals and fine buildings, seminary and museum of antiquities. In the park near the museum I collected 230 *Helix hortensis* Müll., 44 with five bands on a yellow ground, 123 plain, varying from a bright yellow to pale and nearly transparent, representing the varieties *lutca unicolor* and *albida*. Seventy were the variety *pallida castanea* Westerlund; a fine series of this beautiful brown form were compared with Westerlund types. I spent six days exploring the country about Skara and then returned to Gothenburg.

I had accepted an invitation from Prof. Jägerskiöld to attend a meeting of the Biological Society of Gothenburg, at the Palace Hotel on the 9th, and speak on some American mollusks—the use of *Mya arenaria* as food, *Busycon perversum* and the Indians' use of shells, the fresh-water mussels of the Mississippi River and the manufacture of buttons; also the abalone shells of California. The meeting was attended by over forty members. Luncheon was served. Professor Carl Skogsberg presided at the meeting.

On Oct. 11th I went to Boras, one of the large manufacturing cities, to meet Herr Berthold Sundler, an enthusiastic collector, who has a fine collection, and has done excellent work in this part of Sweden. In his paper, "Snäckor och Musslor i Viskan övre Vattenområde," he ably explains the ecological conditions bearing on the destruction of species. It might be of interest to note that he considers *Planorbis* (*Armiger*) *crista* L. and *P.* (*Armiger*) *nautilus* L. distinct species, and seems to have good reasons for doing so. In company with Herr Sundler I visited several of his favorite collecting places, but it was too late in the season for good collecting. I also visited the Historical Museum.

On Oct. 13th I reached Stockholm, the most beautiful city I have seen. The "Riksmuseet" and many other Government institutions are in new buildings some distance out of the city, known as "Vetenskaps-staden." Dr. Nils Hy. Odhner spent several days taking me through the museum and showing me the large collection of arctic mollusks collected during the last century by the various Swedish explorers. I received in

exchange a number of interesting arctic species. Dr. Odhner is well known in America for his many valuable papers. Dr. A. d'Ailly, who spends much time working on the large collection of land shells, showed me many of the rare and beautiful species. I am under great obligation to both of these gentlemen for their many kindnesses and assistance.

October 21 to 23 I spent in the city of Upsala, famous for its cathedral, university, library and botanical garden. Prof. Carl Wiman kindly showed me the collection of fossils in the museum, and Prof. Erik Stensia assisted me in the library, showing me some rare books, and gave me much valuable information.

I next visited Lund. This city has many historical landmarks and museums. The floors of the Natural History Museum had just been varnished and I had no chance to see the collections, but I had a pleasant time with Ansamunsen "*Hans Lohmander*," who has worked on the mollusks of Sweden and has a large private collection.

From here I went to the old city of Ystad on the Baltic. In the harbor I collected small specimens of *Cardium edule* and *Macoma balthica*. I next visited the old fishing village Abfekas. Here I found *Mya arenaria*, rare in the Baltic. I then went to Öremölla, where, in a ditch near the school house, I collected *Helix hortensis* (10 plain and 2 five-banded). This was a surprise to me, for fifty years ago when I went to this school I never saw a specimen at this place. In the old church yard at Skifvarp I also obtained *H. hortensis*, 2 plain and 12 five-banded. I then went to "Härte Skag" in company with an old friend. On the tree trunks I collected 2 plain and 8 five-banded *H. hortensis*; there were hundreds of young shells on the trees from 10 to 15 feet from the ground. A short distance east of here, on the shore of the Baltic, I collected in 1878, 16 specimens of *Neritina fluviatilis* that are still in my collection.

My next stopping place was "Smyge Fiskelage," the most southern part of Sweden. Here I collected *Macoma balthica* and *Mytilus edulis*. Visiting the church in Ostra Torp I found on the gravestones 35 *H. hortensis*, all the five-banded

form. In this graveyard my father's ancestors are laid at rest. At "Klagstorp" I visited one of my school teachers, and together we went to the churchyard, and on the monument and evergreens collected 10 plain and 15 banded *H. hortensis*. This was my last collecting; it was really too late in the year to accomplish much. On Nov. 7th I bid my friends in Ostra Torp farewell and went to Trelleborg and then to Malmö, my last stop in Sweden.

November 10 to 13 was spent in Copenhagen visiting the museums. I met Dr. Theodor Mortensen. He said the fauna on the east coast of Denmark was poor, owing to the great amount of fresh water from the Baltic; he also told me about his expedition to Kei-Öarna, where he made a large collection. Magister of Science R. Spärek showed me the collection of Denmark Mollusca, and kindly gave me some specimens from the deep water of the Baltic and from Iceland and Greenland. Leaving Copenhagen on Nov. 14th, I stopped in London on the 16th and had a glimpse of the British Museum. Arriving in New York on the 23rd, I spent the next day in the American Museum of Natural History, the 26th at the Boston Society of Natural History, and was glad to be so near home again after ten busy weeks abroad.

POLYGYRA APPRESSA LINGUIFERA AND SANCTA GEORGIENSIS

BY H. A. PILSBRY AND E. G. VANATTA

An examination of the history of the Bermudan form of *Polygyra appressa* called *Helix sancta Georgiensis* led to the investigation of *Helix linguifera* of Férussac and Lamarek. This name has long rested as a synonym of *appressa* Say.

The name *H. linguifera* was first listed by Férussac in 1821, without a description, but with the locality "Les environs de Nogeville, état de Tenessé." This is evidently Knoxville. Two years later, Férussac published three figures. Meantime Lamarek had published a description giving the same locality. Férussac's figures and Lamarek's description, so far as it goes, agree very well with shells collected by one